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CITY OF PERTH



REPORT
OF THE HEALTH
DEPARTMENT

For the Year 1953



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CITY OF PERTH

REPORT

UPON THE

HEALTH OF PERTH

FOR THE YEAR 1953

JOHN M. AITKEN, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.,
Medical Officer of Health.

WILLIAM McBRYDE, F.R.San.I.,
Chief Sanitary Inspector.



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Health Department,
22 York Place,
Perth,

June, 1954.

*To The Lord Provost, Magistrates, and Councillors of the City and Royal
Burgh of Perth, and to the Department of Health for Scotland.*

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit my sixth Annual Report as Medical Officer of Health of the City of Perth, for the year ending 31st December, 1953.

Once again I should like to thank the Lord Provost and members of the Council for their support and interest in the work of the Department throughout the year. I should also again like to record my thanks to my fellow Officials and to all the members of the Health Department for the help and assistance they have so readily given.

I am,
Your Obedient Servant,
JOHN M. AITKEN,
Medical Officer of Health.



Report of the Medical Officer of Health

For the City of Perth for the Year 1953.

VITAL STATISTICS.

Population. The population, as estimated by the Registrar General at 30th June, 1953, was 40,925, being an increase of 534 on the 1952 figure. The population density is 96 per acre.

Birth Rate. There was an increase of 11 in the corrected number of births for 1953 as compared with the figure for 1952. The actual birth rate was 16.7 which is slightly lower than the rate for Scotland which was 17.8 per 1,000 of the population. The rate for large burghs was 18.6.

Illegitimate Birth Rate. The illegitimate birth rate fell to 4.7 as compared with 5.2 for 1952 and 7.7 for 1951. This is the lowest rate recorded in the City for the past 50 years. The rate for Scotland was 7.7 and for large burghs 3.7.

Still Birth Rate. The still birth rate showed a slight increase, being 22 per 1,000 births as compared with 20 for the previous year. The rate for large burghs was 27 and for the whole of Scotland 25.

Death Rate. The death rate for 1953 was 10.9 per 1,000 of the population compared with 12.6 for the previous year. This is the lowest recorded figure for the City for the past 50 years. The rate adjusted for age and sex distribution is 9.9. The rate for the whole of Scotland was 11.5 and for large burghs 11.0.

Infant Mortality. The infant mortality rate was 25 per 1,000 live births, being a slight increase in the figure for the last year which was 21 and which was a record low figure for the City. The rate for the whole of Scotland was 31 and for large burghs 32.

Maternal Deaths. There were no maternal deaths during the year. The rate for the whole of Scotland was 9 per 1,000 births.

Deaths from Tuberculosis. The number of deaths from respiratory tuberculosis showed a decrease from the previous year. There were only six deaths from this disease, giving a death rate of .15 per 1,000 of the population as compared with .25 for the previous year. The rate for the whole of Scotland was .23 and for large burghs .25. During the year there were two deaths from non-respiratory tuberculosis.

Deaths from Infectious Diseases. During the year there were two deaths from the principal infectious diseases, giving a death rate of .05 per 1,000 of the population. The rate for the whole of Scotland was .08 and for large burghs .07.

Deaths from Cancer. Of the deaths registered 79 were due to cancer, being an increase of 2 from the previous year, and giving a death rate of 1.9 per 1,000 of the population.

Marriages. The number of marriages registered in the district was 436, giving a rate of 10.7 compared with 8 per 1,000 of the population for the whole of Scotland, and 9.2 for the large burghs.

CARE OF MOTHERS AND YOUNG CHILDREN.

Ante-Natal and Post-Natal Clinics. The existing arrangements for these clinics have continued to prove satisfactory. There was an increase of 867 in the total number of attendances at the ante-natal clinic compared with the attendances during 1952, the total number of attendances being 6,335 of which 3,578 were in respect of City patients. A total of 886 persons attended during the year and of that number 416 were resident in the City.

Child Welfare Clinics. The attendances at these clinics during the year totalled 11,900 compared with 11,062 for 1952. Again I should like to thank the members of the Ladies' Committee for the work they do at the Child Welfare Centres. The following ladies gave their services voluntarily during the past year :—

Miss Buchan, 14 Marshall Place.
Miss Charnley, Oakbank Road.
Mrs. Childs, 32 Abbot Street.
Mrs. Douglas, Langley Road, Scone.
Mrs. Muir, 32 Craigie Road.
Mrs. Macdonald, 23 Oakbank Road.
Miss McLeod, 22 Priory Place.
Mrs. Panton, Muiredge, Burghmuir.
Mrs. Stevenson, Bellwood.
Mrs. Stewart, 20 Malvina Place.

Toddlers: Clinic. 352 children were examined at this clinic during the year.

Premature Infants. It was not necessary to transfer any premature infants to Perth Royal Infirmary for special care and attention.

During the year 33 infants were born prematurely. Of this number 19 were City cases. One was born at home and 18 were born in hospital.

Unmarried Mothers and their Children. 12 unmarried mothers and their children, whose permanent address was within the City, were provided with care and attention at Melville House, 129 Scott Street. During the year this voluntary organisation carried out the work connected with 19 adoption cases, being a decrease of one compared with the previous year.

Supply of Welfare Foods. The following welfare foods were issued from the Child Welfare Clinics on behalf of the Ministry of Food :—

- 4078 tins National Dried Milk.
- 877 bottles Cod Liver Oil.
- 4493 bottles of Orange Juice.
- 52 packets of Vitamin Tablets.

In addition the following proprietary foods were sold at the Child Welfare Centres :—

- 5929 packets of Dried Milk.
- 941 strained foods.
- 1002 packets of Cereals.
- 1316 Vitamin Preparations.
- 1386 Other Foods.
- 108 Child Welfare Instruction Books.

No publicity campaign in connection with Welfare Foods was organised this year in co-operation with the Ministry of Food.

Day Nurseries. The total number of attendances at each day nursery was :—

Florence Place	10,777
Westbank	3,136

The average daily attendance at Florence Place Nursery during the year was 39 where the nominal capacity is 55. At Westbank where the nominal capacity is 18, the average daily attendance was 11.25.

Residential Nursery. During the year 72 new cases were admitted to the residential nursery. The average daily attendance was 12. The average length of stay in the nursery was 51 days. At the end of the year there were 9 long-term cases and 1 short-term case in the nursery.

Training of Nursery Nurses. The scheme for training of nursery nurses continued as formerly. During the year 5 students completed their first year and 5 their second year of training. 4 students passed the examination and gained the Nursery Nurses Certificate.

Children's Home. Regular visitation and medical inspection of the children in the Home continued. Medical treatment is provided by each child's family doctor. The general health of the children throughout the year has been constantly good. During the year 42 children between the ages of 2½ and 5 years, and 69 children over 5 years of age were cared for in the Home.

Nursery and Child Minders Act, 1948. No nursery premises are registered in the area and there are no persons registered as child minders.

Dental Care. During the year 83 applications were received under the priority dental scheme. There were no applications in respect of pre-school children. The total number was in respect of nursing and expectant mothers. Fees paid to dentists in practice under this scheme amounted to £117 4s.

Birth Notifications. There were 1,029 births notified as occurring within the City, being a decrease of 54 from the previous year. In 635 cases the usual place of residence was within the City and was the same as the figure for 1952. 32 per cent of the City births were confined at home. 80 per cent of all births notified occurred in maternity hospitals or nursing homes.

Infant Mortality Rate. For the first time since 1949 there has been a slight increase in the infant mortality rate. The figure for 1953 was 25 per 1,000 births as compared with last year's figure of 21. This however still compares very favourably with the national figures, the figure for large burghs in Scotland being 32, and for the whole of Scotland 31.

82 per cent of the deaths of children under one year occurred in the first month of life as compared with only 43 per cent in 1952. Of the 14 deaths occurring within the first month, all but one occurred within 48 hours of birth. Prematurity was the certified cause of death in the majority of these cases. In the most of the cases there was no known cause for the prematurity, but in some cases it was due to ante-partum haemorrhage. It must be admitted that few cases of prematurity can be ascribed to lack of ante-natal care. Until further research brings to light more detailed information regarding the causation of prematurity very little can be done to reduce these neo-natal deaths. Large scale studies are at present being conducted by central and local authorities working in collaboration, and it is hoped that more detailed information will be available on this problem in the near future.

Family Planning Clinic. The attendances at this clinic totalled 570, being a decrease of 49 from the previous year. 171 new cases attended during the year. 73 of these belonged to the City and the remaining 98 came from the Counties of Perth, Fife, and Angus.

SCHOOL MEDICAL SERVICE.

The arrangements for this service entered into between the County and Town Councils in 1951 have continued to work very satisfactorily.

Towards the end of the year a B.C.G. vaccination scheme for the prevention of tuberculosis was offered to all school leavers in the City. Of the 1,121 children eligible, acceptances were received in respect of 952, giving an acceptance rate of 85 per cent which can be considered very encouraging and should go a long way to preventing tuberculosis in the age group 15 to 25 years of age. During 1953, 863 children were tested and of these 522 received B.C.G. vaccination.

During the year the Medical Officers of Health Department carried out 2,075 routine medical inspections. In addition, 282 special and 744 vision examinations and 1,000 re-examinations were carried out. 279 children in part-time employment were also examined. 22,425 examinations were carried out by the school nurses, principally in connection with

cleanliness inspections and the follow-up of children found to be suffering from defects at routine medical inspections.

As a result of the routine medical inspections it was found that 80 per cent of children examined were healthy. 3 per cent showed evidence of dirty heads. One per cent of all children examined suffered from squints ; 5.7 per cent of all children examined were found to be suffering from some abnormality of the ear, nose or throat ; and 17 per cent of all those examined suffered from other defects of one kind or another.

A synopsis of the work carried out by the Health Department is contained in Tables 9, 10, 11, and 12. For more detailed information reference should be made to the report of the County Medical Officer.

DOMICILIARY MIDWIFERY.

In November, the Town Council decided to provide its own domiciliary nursing service and to combine it with that of the domiciliary midwifery service. This decision followed the announcement of the Perth Sick Nursing Society to discontinue as a voluntary nursing organisation. The nursing services were in fact provided by the Health Department during December, but it was not until early in 1954 that the two services were combined. The proposals for the combination of this service with Home Nursing have still to be submitted to the Secretary of State for his approval.

Maternity Outfits. Outfits were provided to maternity cases during the year. Distribution is undertaken either by the midwife in charge of the case or by the patient or a relative calling at the Health Department to collect the parcel.

Supervision of Midwives. The equipment and records of the midwives practising in the area were inspected during the year by the Assistant Medical Officer of Health in her capacity as Supervisor of Midwives.

Domiciliary Confinements. 254 applications for maternity services were received during the year. This number compares with 252 during 1952. 200 confinements were conducted as compared with 198 during 1952. An additional 16 cases who received ante-natal care by the domiciliary midwives were later admitted to hospital. Three private cases were conducted at home compared with none in the previous year.

Analgesia. All the midwives employed by the Local Authority hold the certificate for the administration of gas and air analgesia. Four gas and air outfits have now been supplied to the midwives, and during the year 170 patients received gas and air analgesia. In addition, 128 patients were given pethidine.

HEALTH VISITING.

For the greater part of the year seven Health Visitors were employed in a full-time capacity. One continues to be employed wholetime on tuberculosis work and another whole-time in the school health service,

the latter working in co-operation with the school nurse provided by the Education Department. As a result of the combination of the Home Nursing and Domiciliary Midwifery Services, one of the Health Visitors was appointed as Superintendent Nursing Officer, supervising the work of the Nurse-Midwives and Health Visitors, thus leaving at the end of the year six full-time Health Visitors employed by the Authority. Of these only four are available to undertake all the work connected with attendance at clinics, visits in connection with ante-natal and child welfare work, and visits connected with the aged and the Home Help services. In order to carry out all the recommendations outlined in the report on "Child Health" drawn up by the Committee on Child Health of the Scottish Health Services Council; the Report of the Standing Advisory Committee on Local Authority Services "What Local Authorities Can do to Promote Health and Prevent Disease"; and the Report of the Standing Advisory Committee on "The Ageing Population," more Health Visitors would require to be appointed.

The following is a list of the visits carried out by the Health Visitors:—

Children under 1 year of age	. . .	3,441	visits.
Children 1 to 5 years of age	. . .	3,392	"
Expectant Mothers	. . .	488	"
Persons Receiving Home Help	. . .	259	"
Aged Persons	. . .	222	"
Tuberculosis Cases	. . .	1,053	"
Streptomycin injections given to cases of tuberculosis	. . .	1,110	"
Visits on behalf of Almoners	. . .	35	"
Visits on behalf of General Practitioners	. . .	8	"
Other Visits	. . .	88	"

School Health Service:—

No. of examinations carried out	. . .	22,425
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During October opportunity was given to the Health Visitors to attend a short refresher course by way of lectures and demonstrations given by local members of the medical profession.

HOME NURSING.

In the month of November, the Perth Sick Nursing Society who acted as the agents of the Town Council in the provision of these services decided to discontinue its function as a voluntary nursing organisation, and as a result the Town Council decided to provide its own nursing services.

During the year 584 patients received nursing care, involving a total of 13,464 visits. April and May were the months in which this service was in greatest demand.

At the time of writing, proposals for the combining of the home nursing and midwifery services are in the process of being submitted to the Secretary of State for approval.

During the year two houses were provided for the nurses and at the time of writing six of the nurse-midwives have been provided with furnished housing accommodation.

NURSING HOMES (SCOTLAND) REGISTRATION ACT, 1938.

The one home in the City registered under this Act was visited during the year and found to be satisfactory. Medical, surgical, and midwifery cases are cared for in this home.

MEDICAL LOAN DEPOT.

81 articles were loaned out during the year to persons being nursed at home. The following is a list of the articles which are available for loan :—

Bed Pans.	Bed Bottles.
Bed Rests.	Mackintosh Sheets.
Air Rings.	

DOMESTIC HELP SCHEME.

The establishment of this service is now 12 whole-time Helps. 85 households received help during the year and of these 9 were maternity cases, 18 cases of illness, 48 aged persons, 9 tuberculosis cases, and one blind person.

At the end of the year consideration was given to placing the Helps on the scale of remuneration of the Joint Industrial Council. The Health Visiting staff visit all households receiving help.

Through the bequest referred to in previous reports elderly people in receipt of home help received gifts of flowers, fruit, etc., on the occasion of their birthdays.

VACCINATION AND IMMUNISATION.

Vaccination. 564 primary vaccinations were carried out during the year, being an increase of 83 compared with the previous year. Of these, 208 were carried out at the Local Authority's clinics, the remainder being done by general practitioners. As the result of a survey carried out at the end of the year it was found that 80 per cent of City children entering school had been vaccinated against smallpox.

In all 104 re-vaccinations were carried out, principally for the purpose of issuing vaccination certificates in respect of people proceeding abroad.

Immunisation Against Diphtheria. This is now the sixth consecutive year in which there has been no case of diphtheria in the City, and it is now 8 years since a child last died from this disease. A survey at the end of the year showed that 90.75 per cent of entrants to school had been immunised against diphtheria.

648 children were immunised for the first time during the year compared with 623 during the previous year. Of these 324 were carried out at the Child Welfare Centres, and 324 by general practitioners. 129 of these children were inoculated against both diphtheria and whooping cough.

630 children received re-inforcing inoculations on their entry to school. 201 of these inoculations were carried out at the Child Welfare Centres, 289 by medical officers at routine school medical inspections, and 140 by medical practitioners.

Immunisation Against Whooping Cough. 345 children were immunised against this disease compared with 294 during the previous year. The practice of giving separate injections against this disease has continued.

PREVENTION OF ILLNESS — CARE AND AFTERCARE.

A. Tuberculosis.

Tracing of Infection. 397 contacts of cases of tuberculosis were examined during the year compared with 213 for the previous year. Of the contacts examined 11 were found to be suffering from tuberculosis and 12 from a primary infection.

Admissions to Hospital. The hospital bed accommodation has now very much improved. During the year 89 cases were admitted compared with 86 for the previous year. Of these 79 were respiratory and 10 non-respiratory cases of tuberculosis. At the end of the year 1 male and 4 females were awaiting admission to sanatoria.

Housing. 14 families in which there was a case of tuberculosis were rehoused during the year, making a total of 117 such families rehoused during the past 6 years.

Death Rate. 8 persons died from this disease during 1953 compared with 10 during the previous year. This gives a death rate of .2 per 1,000 of the population compared with .25 for 1952. This compares very favourably with the national rates which for large burghs in Scotland was .3 per 1,000 of the population and for the whole of Scotland .26.

Notifications. There were only 48 new notifications of respiratory tuberculosis compared with 55 during the previous year. This is most encouraging, and it is very pleasing to record that this is the third consecutive year in which there has been a decrease in the number of new notifications. In 1950 the number of new notifications was 75.

The number of notifications of non-respiratory tuberculosis was 12 compared with 9 during the previous year.

Supply of Extra Nourishment, Nursing Requisites, Etc. Cod liver oil and malt continues to be given free of charge where necessary. 85

persons were supplied during the year with one pint of milk per day at a total cost of £565. It was only necessary to supply bed and bedding to one case during the year. 3 sputum flasks, 12 mugs, and 109 tins of disinfectant were issued to domiciliary cases.

Co-operation with Ministry of Labour. 5 men and 2 women suffering from tuberculosis were placed in suitable employment during the year.

Mass Radiography. A total of 485 persons were examined by mass radiography. Of this number 25 were found to have abnormalities but of these only two were found to be suffering from tuberculosis. The following groups were given an opportunity during the year to be x-rayed :—

Murray Royal Hospital.

Scottish Rural Gas Company.

H. M. Prison.

Ministry of Labour.

Inland Revenue.

Nursing Staffs.

The total number of examinations carried out by the mass radiography unit since its inception in 1950 is 7,548. As a result of these examinations 30 cases of tuberculosis have been discovered.

B.C.G. Vaccination. 112 contacts of cases of tuberculosis were tested and as a result 67 were vaccinated with B.C.G. In addition, 59 nurses were tested and of that number 6 required immunisation with B.C.G. vaccine. 16 newly born infants were also immunised. During the year 1 child belonging to the City and 2 belonging to the County were admitted to Westbank Nursery for B.C.G. Vaccination.

During the year the Secretary of State approved of the proposals of the Town and County Councils for the scheme of vaccination of school leavers with B.C.G. At the High School, 475 children were tested and of these 311 were immunised. Of the 388 children tested at Perth Academy, 211 were immunised.

Since 1950, a total of 1,571 persons have been tested, and of these 789 have been vaccinated against this disease. During this period 30 infants have also received B.C.G. vaccine.

B. Chiropody Services in the City.

Bertha Home. A chiropody service is available for the residents in Bertha Home. In co-operation with the Board of Management for the Perthshire General Hospitals, the services of a chiropodist are available one day per month.

Perth Old People's Welfare Council. Perth Old People's Welfare Council provide a fortnightly chiropody session for their members, approximately 8 members receiving treatment at each session. A charge of

2s. 6d. is made for each case. Since April, 1953, 180 members have received treatment. Appointments are generally made at the monthly social meetings of the Council.

CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

There were 371 cases of infectious disease notified during the year being an increase of 75 from the previous year. This increase is largely due to a marked increase in the number of notifications of whooping cough, viz.: 220 compared with 27 during the previous year. As mentioned elsewhere in this report this is the sixth year in succession in which there has been no case of diphtheria and it is now 8 years since there was a death from this disease in the City.

Scarlet Fever. During the year there was a marked reduction in the number of notifications of scarlet fever. In all 61 cases were notified as compared with 161 in the previous year. Of the 61 cases notified only 23 were admitted to hospital. There were no deaths from this disease.

Whooping Cough. 220 cases were notified as compared with 27 in 1952. In only 6 instances was admission to hospital necessary. There were no deaths from this disease during the year.

Poliomyelitis. There were no cases of this disease notified in the area during the year compared with 2 during the previous year.

Non-Notifiable Infectious Disease. During the course of the Health Visitors visits to the homes of pre-school children it was ascertained that there had been 109 cases of measles, 1 case of German measles, 7 cases of chickenpox, and 15 cases of mumps.

HOSPITAL TREATMENT OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

122 cases of infectious disease were admitted to King's Cross Hospital Dundee, compared with 168 in 1952. Of that number 23 were cases of scarlet fever, 29 measles, 12 chickenpox, 3 mumps, 2 dysentery, 6 whooping cough, 4 impetigo, and 7 gastro-enteritis.

FOOD POISONING.

No outbreaks of food poisoning were notified in the area during the year. As formerly, all contacts of infectious disease who, as a result of notification, are revealed to be food handlers are examined medically and advised accordingly. In no case was it necessary to suspend any of these food handlers from work. In some instances the duties of the food handler were altered during the period of infectivity as a result of co-operation with the employers concerned.

WATER SUPPLY.

Throughout 1953 the bacteriological quality of the water distributed has been uniformly of the highest standard.

Algae in the reservoirs were later than usual in developing and did not give trouble until midsummer. Once started however they were very persistent and did not respond to treatment. It was not until November that the reservoirs were finally cleared.

MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES.

It is now three years since the clinic for mental deficiency was established in the area. During the year, 28 City cases and 26 County cases were dealt with. Two of the cases were admitted to institutions and 12 were kept under observation through the clinic system.

Mental Illness. 24 cases of mental illness were admitted to hospital during the year, 13 of whom were certified. At the end of the year there were no cases of mental illness being cared for at home, whilst 133 were being cared for in institutions as compared with 120 at the end of 1952.

Mental Deficiency. 3 cases of mental deficiency were certified during the year, and 4 cases were admitted to institutions for mental defectives. No cases were recertified on reaching the age of 16 years. One case was placed under guardianship during the year. At the end of 1953, 53 cases of mental deficiency were under treatment in mental institutions and 5 were being cared for at home.

HEALTH EDUCATION.

12 health talks and film shows were given during the year in the area as follows :—

23rd January	Public Health Section of the Royal College of Nursing.
2nd February	United Free Church Men's Club.
23rd February	Caledonian Road School Parent-Teachers Association.
25th February	Wilson Church Mother's Fellowship.
26th February	Trinity Church Woman's Guild.
2nd March	St. Leonard's Parich Church Woman's Guild.
13th April	Union of Catholic Mothers.
25th October	St. John's Church Youth Fellowship.
3rd November	St. Leonard's-in-the-Fields Woman's Guild.
22nd November	St. Leonard's-in-the-Fields Youth Fellowship.
23rd November	United Free Church Men's Club.
2nd December	Western District School Parent-Teachers Association.

The help and assistance given by the Scottish Council for Health Education is greatly appreciated. The necessary films and projectors are supplied where necessary. Every opportunity is taken at these lectures to stress the importance of preventing illness and disease by maintaining a high standard of community health.

VENEREAL DISEASE.

9 new cases of acquired syphilis were treated during the year as compared with 6 during 1952. In the case of gonorrhoea 20 new cases were treated as compared with 15 during the previous year.

ORTHOPAEDIC SERVICE.

124 pre-school children attended for the first time at the Orthopaedic Clinic. At the end of the year 274 pre-school City children were attending for treatment and supervision. 12 of these cases were admitted to hospital.

ACCIDENTS.

Vehicular. 171 accidents resulting from vehicular traffic were reported to the Chief Constable, being an increase of two from the previous year. As a result of these accidents 183 persons were injured, 6 fatally, 40 seriously, and 37 slightly. 55 of the injured persons were under 15 years of age.

Non-Vehicular. 115 non-vehicular accidents, involving 117 persons were brought to the notice of the Police. 9 of these persons died and 32 were seriously injured. Of the 9 fatalities 4 were due to coal gas poisoning.

The importance of the prevention of accidents in the home is stressed wherever possible at the various health education lectures given throughout the year.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948.

During the year the long-term sick patients in Bertha Home were transferred to other hospitals in the area. At the end of the year there remained three mental defectives under guardianship, but it is anticipated that they will be placed elsewhere in the near future. It is however, extremely difficult to find suitable accommodation for such cases in view of the present general acute shortage of accommodation.

The standard of comfort for the residents in the Home continued to be improved, but no major structural or decorative improvements were carried out as plans for the complete modernisation of the Home are at present being prepared. It is proposed to transform the Home into a modern building providing accommodation for persons in need of care and attention. Many structural alterations will be required, including the provision of a lift and the supply of up-to-date furniture and furnish-

ings. At the same time the Home will be completely re-decorated. It is anticipated that the Home will be able to cater for the needs of all persons requiring care and attention that is not otherwise available to them in their own homes. The plans also include the demolition of the lodge which is at present used as a reception centre, and it may be possible to provide alternative accommodation for these persons in the former Smallpox Hospital.

The scheme for the provision of a chiropody service is now working very successfully. A chiropodist attends for one full day per month. A scheme for the provision of occupational therapy for the residents was instituted on a voluntary basis by the local branch of the British Red Cross Society. It has proved valuable to those residents who are able to do knitting, sewing, etc. A regular supply of library books is provided by the Sandeman Library, and regular visitation is carried out by the members of local churches. During the year numerous voluntary organisations provided concerts and outings for the residents.

The local branch of the W.V.S. commenced a most valuable and highly appreciated service in running a mobile shop at the Home. This is provided every week, and the residents can make purchases of sweets, biscuits, notepaper, etc.

By the end of 1953, a further 12 houses had been provided by the Town Council for aged persons. It is anticipated that another 12 will be ready for occupation in the Letham by midsummer. These houses are in addition to the 12 already in occupation in the Moncreiffe scheme.

Bowerswell Home and cottages continue their good work of caring for aged persons. There are 60 persons resident in the Home and in the cottages. It is the only voluntary home in the City registered under the Act for this purpose.

It was not necessary to use the power contained under Section 47 of the Act for the compulsory removal of certain persons from their homes. The property of 4 persons had to be taken care of during the year and 5 burials were arranged. The undernoted voluntary bodies continued their good work most acceptably during the year :—

The Society for Teaching the Blind to Read in the County of Perth and Kinross.

The Perth Mission to the Deaf and Dumb.

Anton House, Broughty Ferry.

In carrying out splendid work in connection with the visitation of aged people, appreciation must be given to the Old People's Welfare Council, the Old Age Pensioners Association, Indigent Old Men's Society, and the Society for the Relief of Indigent Ladies. Visitation carried out by these bodies to aged persons living alone is a most worthy service.

TABLE No. 1.
VITAL STATISTICS.

Estimated Population (middle of 1953), 40,928. Area of Burgh, 4,122 acres.
 Population (1951 Census), 40,466. No. of Inhabited Houses, 12,602.
 Estimated Pre-School Population, 3,434. Gross Valuation, £531,045
 Estimated School Population, 6,611. Rateable Value, £502,747

	Cor- rected Number	Rate per 1,000 of estimated Popu- lation	Corres- ponding Rate for 1952	Rate for	
				Scot- land	Large Burghs
Births (total live births) .	682	16.7	16.6	17.8	18.6
Births—Illegitimate (per 100 live births)	32	4.7	5.2	4.7	3.7
Still births (per 1,000 births, including still births) .	15	22	20	25	27
Deaths (all causes)	446	10.9	12.6	11.5	11
Tuberculosis (all forms) .	8	.20	.25	.26	.30
Tuberculosis (respiratory)	6	.15	.25	.23	.25
Epidemic Diseases	2	.05	.02	.08	.07
Children under 1 year (per 1,000 live births)	17	25	21	31	32
Children under 1 month (per 1,000 live births) .	14	21	9	19	—
Women in childbirth (per 1,000 births, including still births	—	—	4	.9	—

TABLE No. 2.

DEATHS FROM INFECTIOUS AND CONTAGIOUS DISEASES.

	Number	Rate per 1,000 of the Population	Corresponding Rate for 1952
Deaths from Influenza .	1	.025	—
Deaths from Measles .	1	.025	—
Deaths from Meningococcal Infection	—	—	.02
Deaths from Tuberculosis (Respiratory). . . .	6	.15	.25
Deaths from Tuberculosis (Non-Respiratory) . . .	2	.05	—

TABLE No. 3.

DEATHS FROM SYSTEMIC DISEASES.

	Number	Rate per 1,000 of the Population	Corresponding Rate for 1952
Diseases of the Cardio- Vascular System . . .	168	4.1	5.27
Cancer	79	1.9	1.9
Diseases of the Respiratory System (Non-Tuber- culous)	25	.6	.57
Diseases of the Digestive System.	15	.36	.57
Diseases of the Genito- Urinary System . . .	8	.2	.25
Diseases of the Nervous System.	66	1.3	1.85

TABLE No. 4.
INFANTILE DEATHS.

	Under 1 week		1 and under 4 weeks		1 and under 3 months		3 and under 6 months		6 and under 12 months		Total		Total
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	
Asphyxia	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	1
Birth Injuries and Atelectasis and Prematurity	10	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	11	-	11
Congenital Malformation	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2	3
Enteritis	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	1
Pulmonary Oedema	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	1
Totals	11	2	1	-	-	-	2	1	-	-	14	3	17

TABLE No. 5.
MATERNAL DEATHS.

	1952	1953
Puerperal Sepsis	—	—
Other Puerperal Causes	3	—
Total	3	—

TABLE No. 6.
MORTALITY AT THE DIFFERENT AGE GROUPS.

	1952			1953		
	M.	F.	Total	M.	F.	Total
Under 1 year	10	4	14	14	3	17
1 and under 5 years	4	1	5	1	1	2
5 and under 10 years	1	2	3	1	—	1
10 and under 15 years	2	—	2	—	—	—
15 and under 25 years	3	1	4	4	2	6
25 and under 35 years	7	7	14	4	8	12
35 and under 45 years	11	7	18	8	6	14
45 and under 55 years	21	21	42	11	14	25
55 and under 65 years	53	34	87	37	25	62
65 and under 75 years	74	67	141	69	63	132
75 and under 85 years	59	74	133	69	63	132
85 years and over	13	33	46	17	26	43
Totals	258	251	509	235	211	446

TABLE No. 7.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

AGE INCIDENCE OF CONFIRMED CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE NOTIFIED DURING 1953.

	Under 1	1 and under 5	5 and under 15	15 and under 25	25 and under 35	35 and under 45	45 and under 65	65 and upwards	Total	Cases re- moved to Hospital	Cases not removed to Hospital
Dysentery . . .	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	2	2	—
Erysipelas . . .	—	—	—	—	—	2	2	2	6	2	4
Malaria . . .	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	2	—	2
Ophthalmia Neon- atorum . . .	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—
Para-Typhoid B . .	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—
Pneumonia, Acute . .	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Primary . . .	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	2	1
Puerperal Pyrexia . .	—	—	—	4	7	3	1	—	15	15	—
Scarlet Fever . . .	—	19	41	1	—	—	—	—	61	23	38
Tuberculosis, Respiratory . . .	—	4	5	14	9	6	7	3	48	34	14
Tuberculosis, Non-Respiratory . .	—	2	1	7	—	—	1	1	12	6	6
Whooping Cough . .	10	111	97	—	1	1	—	—	220	6	214
Totals . . .	13	139	144	28	18	12	11	6	371	92	279

MONTHLY INCIDENCE OF CONFIRMED CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED DURING 1953.

	Dysentery	Erysipelas	Malaria	Ophthalmia Neonatorum	Para-Typhoid B	Pneumonia, Acute Primary	Puerperal Pyrexia	Scarlet Fever	Tuberculosis, Respiratory	Tuberculosis, Non-Respiratory	Whooping Cough	Total
January	—	—	—	—	—	1	3	6	5	2	—	17
February	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	4	3	1	—	11
March	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	7	4	—	—	12
April	—	—	—	—	1	1	2	3	7	1	1	16
May	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	5	3	3	—	13
June	—	1	1	1	—	—	—	6	3	—	—	12
July	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	3	3	—	8
August	1	—	1	—	—	—	4	1	3	—	—	10
September	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	4	1	—	7
October	1	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	2	1	5	12
November	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	13	2	—	64	80
December	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	12	9	—	150	173
Totals	2	6	2	1	1	3	15	61	48	12	220	371

TABLE No. 9.

SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICE.

SCHOOL MEDICAL INSPECTIONS CARRIED OUT BY THE MEDICAL OFFICERS OF THE CITY HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

	Entrants	9 year olds	13 year olds	16 year olds	Other age groups	Vision Examinations	Specials	Re-examinations	Employed Children	TOTAL
January .	27	—	206	78	12	—	57	—	—	380
February .	24	272	—	—	15	47	24	—	—	382
March .	18	131	27	6	9	11	30	389	—	621
April .	46	3	10	5	4	2	6	239	—	315
May .	148	9	1	—	8	4	37	222	—	429
June .	3	—	2	—	5	—	22	13	—	45
July .	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
August .	—	—	54	—	1	—	—	23	—	78
September .	200	—	—	—	3	90	28	114	—	435
October .	266	82	—	—	3	537	40	—	—	928
November .	3	291	—	—	2	17	19	—	76	408
December .	6	95	—	—	—	36	19	—	203	359
Totals	741	883	300	89	62	744	282	1000	279	4380

TABLE No. 10.

SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICE.

SCHOOL MEDICAL INSPECTIONS CARRIED OUT BY THE MEDICAL OFFICERS OF THE CITY HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

	No. of Sessions conducted at Schools	No. of Special Visits to Schools	No. of Clinic Sessions
January . . .	17	3	4
February . . .	19	1	3
March . . .	20	1	4
April . . .	12	1	3
May . . .	19	2	3
June . . .	2	8	7
July . . .	—	—	—
August . . .	4	—	1
September . . .	17	4	4
October . . .	20	1	3
November . . .	20	—	5
December . . .	10	2	3
Totals	160	23	40

TABLE No. 11.

**SCHOOL MEDICAL INSPECTIONS
CARRIED OUT BY THE MEDICAL OFFICERS OF THE CITY HEALTH DEPARTMENT**

	Total No. Examined.	Children with no Defects.		Children with Dirty Heads.		Children with Squints.		Children with Ear, Nose and Throat Conditions		Children with Other Conditions.	
		No.	Percentage	No.	Percentage	No.	Percentage	No.	Percentage	No.	Percentage
Entrants	741	613	83	17	2	16	2	75	10	79	10
Nine year olds	883	707	80	35	4	11	1	30	3	174	20
Thirteen year olds	300	230	77	8	3	—	—	6	2	72	24
Sixteen year olds	89	70	79	—	—	—	—	—	—	26	30
Other Age Groups	62	49	79	1	2	1	2	8	13	11	18
Totals	2075	1669	80	61	3	28	1	119	5.7	362	17

TABLE No. 12

SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICE—VISITS BY HEALTH VISITORS.

	No. of Visits paid to the Schools.	No. of Children examined for the first time during the month.	No. of Children re-examined during the month.	No. of Children examined as infectious disease contacts.	No. of visits paid to children's homes during month.
January	37	1634	132	132	9
February	49	1808	594	123	10
March	43	1376	784	75	5
April	36	1975	176	36	3
May	53	1798	647	70	9
June	15	304	326	126	—
July	—	—	—	—	—
August	—	—	—	—	—
September	50	3979	348	40	5
October	55	1607	722	28	17
November	53	749	1210	330	5
December	45	105	1073	118	2
Totals	436	15,335	6012	1078	65

TABLE No 13.
VACCINATIONS.

	Typical Vaccinia greatest at 7th-10th Day	Accelerated (Vaccinoid) Re-action, 5th-7th Day	Re-action greatest at 2nd-3rd Day	No local Re-action	TOTAL
No. Vaccinated at Child Welfare Centres	199	2	—	7	208
No. Vaccinated by General Practitioners	336	1	—	19	356
Totals	535	3	—	26	564

TABLE No 14.
RE-VACCINATIONS.

	Typical Vaccinia greatest at 7th-10th Day	Accelerated (Vaccinoid) Re-action, 5th-7th Day	Re-action greatest at 2nd-3rd Day	No local Re-action	TOTAL
No. Re-vaccinated at Child Welfare Centres	2	—	—	—	2
No. Re-vaccinated by General Practitioners	43	21	26	12	102
Totals	45	21	26	12	104

TABLE No. 15.
DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION.

Year of Birth	Immunised at Child Welfare Centres		Immunised by General Practitioners		Refused	Died	Removed to other Areas	TOTAL
	Diphtheria	Combined Diphtheria and Whoop. Cough	Diphtheria	Combined Diphtheria and Whoop. Cough				
1947 or earlier	2	1	4	—	—	—	—	7
1948 . . .	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	2
1949 . . .	6	—	1	—	—	—	—	7
1950 . . .	3	—	5	1	—	—	—	9
1951 . . .	24	1	25	3	—	—	—	53
1952 . . .	250	1	146	104	1	8	36	546
1953 . . .	33	2	18	16	—	5	30	104
Totals . . .	319	5	200	124	1	13	66	728

TABLE No. 16.
DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATIONS—MAINTENANCE INOCULATIONS.

	YEAR OF BIRTH						TOTAL
	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947	1948	1949
No. Immunised at Child Welfare Centres . . .	—	—	—	1	3	171	26
No. Immunised by General Practitioners . . .	2	1	2	3	18	108	6
No. Immunised by School Medical Officers . . .	7	6	8	10	43	215	—
Totals	9	7	10	14	64	494	32
							630

TABLE No. 17.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATIONS.

Year	Total No. Immunised.
1940	690
1941	1690
1942	488
1943	502
1944	600
1945	588
1946	478
1947	658
1948	857
1949	909
1950	897
1951	764
1952	623
1953	648

TABLE No. 18.

WHOOPING COUGH IMMUNISATION.

	YEAR OF BIRTH							Total
	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	
No. of Children Immunised	1	6	6	12	26	244	50	345

TABLE No. 19.

TUBERCULOSIS.

RETURN OF CASES NOTIFIED DURING THE YEAR IN WHICH DIAGNOSIS OF TUBERCULOSIS HAS BEEN CONFIRMED.

	Under 1	1 and under 5	5 and under 10	10 and under 15	15 and under 25	25 and under 35	35 and under 45	45 and under 65	65 and upwards	Total
RESPIRATORY	Males	—	2	2	—	4	3	6	3	23
	Females	—	2	2	1	10	6	1	—	25
	Total	—	4	4	1	14	9	7	3	48
NON- RESPIRATORY	Males	—	—	1	—	4	—	1	1	7
	Females	—	2	—	—	3	—	—	—	5
	Total	—	2	1	—	7	—	1	1	12
RESPIRATORY AND NON- RESPIRATORY	Males	—	2	3	—	8	3	7	4	30
	Females	—	4	2	1	13	6	1	—	30
	Total	—	6	5	1	21	9	8	4	60

TABLE No. 20.

TUBERCULOSIS.

RETURN OF NUMBER OF PERSONS RESIDENT IN THE AREA AT 31st DECEMBER, 1953, WHO WERE KNOWN TO BE SUFFERING FROM TUBERCULOSIS.

A. RESPIRATORY.

		Number of Cases in Age Groups										Total
		Under 1	1 and under 5	5 and under 10	10 and under 15	15 and under 25	25 and under 35	35 and under 45	45 and under 65	65 and upwards		
1. Sputum or other material examined and tubercle bacilli found.	Males	—	—	—	—	8	12	12	23	4	59	
	Females	—	2	—	—	13	10	6	3	1	35	
2. Sputum or other material examined and tubercle bacilli never found.	Males	—	—	2	6	28	44	20	22	4	126	
	Females	—	—	2	5	47	32	11	5	1	103	
3. Sputum or other material not examined.	Males	—	3	13	6	9	5	1	4	1	42	
	Females	—	2	5	9	12	6	1	3	—	38	
Totals		—	7	22	26	117	109	51	60	11	403	

		Number of Cases in Age Groups									
		Under 1	1 and under 5	5 and under 10	10 and under 15	15 and under 25	25 and under 35	35 and under 45	45 and under 65	65 and upwards	Total
1. Abdominal.	Males	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	1	—	3
	Females	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	1	3
2. Spine.	Males	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	2
	Females	—	—	—	1	1	—	3	—	—	5
3. Bones and Joints (exclusive of Spine).	Males	—	1	1	6	6	1	—	1	1	17
	Females	—	—	—	2	1	—	3	1	1	8
4. Superficial Glands.	Males	—	—	3	3	—	1	1	—	—	8
	Females	—	—	1	1	2	1	1	—	—	6
5. Lupus.	Males	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	2
	Females	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
6. Other parts or Organs.	Males	—	—	1	—	2	—	—	—	—	3
	Females	—	1	1	1	2	—	1	—	—	6
Total		—	2	9	15	15	5	11	4	3	64
RESPIRATORY & NON- RESPIRATORY TOTALS		—	9	31	41	132	114	62	64	14	467

TABLE No. 21.

TUBERCULOSIS.

RETURN OF NUMBER OF PERSONS WHO DIED FROM TUBERCULOSIS IN THE AREA DURING THE YEAR, WITH PARTICULARS AS TO PERIOD ELAPSING BETWEEN NOTIFICATION AND DEATH.

	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	Males	Females	Males	Females
Not notified or notified only at or after death .	1	—	—	—
Notified less than 1 month before death .	—	—	—	—
Notified from 1 to 3 months before death .	1	—	—	—
Notified from 3 to 6 months before death .	—	1	—	—
Notified from 6 to 12 months before death .	—	—	—	—
Notified from 1 to 2 years before death .	—	—	—	—
Notified over 2 years before death .	1	2	1	1
Total	3	3	1	1
Number who died within 28 days after discharge from an institution	—	—	1	—
Number who died more than 28 days after discharge from an institution	—	—	—	—

TABLE No. 22.

TUBERCULOSIS.

RETURN SHOWING THE NUMBER OF CASES WHICH RECEIVED TREATMENT UNDER THE TUBERCULOSIS SCHEME IN SANATORIA OR OTHER INSTITUTIONS DURING THE YEAR.

		NUMBER OF PATIENTS.				
		In Institutions on January 1st	Admitted during year	Discharged during year	Died in the Institutions	In Institutions on December 31
RESPIRATORY	Males	19	37	28	2	26
	Females	19	36	27	3	25
	Males	1	1	2	—	—
	Females	2	5	6	—	1
NON- RESPIRATORY	Males	5	2	5	—	2
	Females	3	3	4	1	1
	Males	1	1	1	—	1
	Females	2	4	3	—	3
	Totals	52	89	76	6	59

TABLE No. 23.

B.C.G. VACCINATION.

Group	No. Tuberculin Tested		Negative		Re-actors		No. Successfully Vaccinated	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
(a) Nurses	—	59	—	6	—	6	—	6
(b) Medical students	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
(c) Contacts	47	65	28	39	28	39	28	39
(d) Special Groups not included in above								
(i) School leavers	422	441	260	262	260	262	260	262
(ii) New-born babies	9	7	9	7	9	7	9	7
(e) Others (Reserve Nurses)	—	8	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	478	580	297	314	297	314	297	314

TABLE SHOWING NUMBER OF BIRTHS NOTIFIED DURING EACH MONTH OF 1953.

	Burgh Cases			Other Areas	Total	Still-born	Premature	Illegitimate
	Males	Females	Total					
January . . .	39	25	64	30	94	3	5	1
February . . .	33	26	59	32	91	2	1	1
March . . .	33	19	52	33	85	1	1	1
April . . .	30	18	48	34	82	1	—	1
May . . .	32	36	68	40	108	2	4	1
June . . .	28	26	54	32	86	—	2	—
July . . .	34	19	53	36	89	2	2	1
August . . .	34	19	53	35	88	1	1	2
September . . .	22	26	48	24	72	2	2	3
October . . .	18	26	44	33	77	4	5	1
November . . .	26	22	48	32	80	1	7	2
December . . .	26	18	44	33	77	1	3	1
Totals . . .	355	280	635	394	1029	20	33	15

TABLE No. 25.

BIRTH NOTIFICATIONS.

	Attended by a Midwife alone	Attended by a Doctor alone	Attended by a Doctor and Midwife	Born before arrival of Doctor or a Midwife	Total
January	46	1	47	—	94
February	39	1	51	—	91
March	41	1	41	2	85
April	40	—	41	1	82
May	42	1	65	—	108
June	27	2	57	—	86
July	50	—	39	—	89
August	41	1	46	—	88
September	42	1	29	—	72
October	48	—	29	—	77
November	40	—	40	—	80
December	42	1	33	1	77
Totals	498	9	518	4	1029

TABLE No. 26.

BIRTH NOTIFICATIONS.

	Domiciliary	No. of Births occurring in Perth Royal Infirmary	No. of Births in Private Nursing Homes	Total
January . . .	22	60	12	94
February . . .	14	66	11	91
March . . .	19	55	11	85
April . . .	14	58	10	82
May . . .	17	74	17	108
June . . .	12	61	13	86
July . . .	10	70	9	89
August . . .	22	54	12	88
September . . .	20	44	8	72
October . . .	18	53	6	77
November . . .	15	53	12	80
December . . .	20	52	5	77
Totals . . .	203	700	126	1029

TABLE No. 27.

BIRTH NOTIFICATIONS.

Total No. of Births, including still births, notified during the year	1029
(i) Cases dealt with under Section 23 (2) of the National Health Service (Scotland) Act, 1947	
(a) Doctor engaged and present at confinement	82
(b) Doctor engaged but not present at confinement	118
(c) Midwife alone (no doctor engaged)	—
(ii) Other domiciliary cases.	
(a) Doctor engaged	3
(b) Midwife alone (no doctor engaged)	—
(c) Conducted by outdoor staff of an institution	—
(d) Without doctor or midwife	—
(iii) Cases conducted at institutions (including private maternity and nursing homes) in the area of the Local Health Authority	826

TABLE No. 28.

DOMICILIARY MIDWIFERY SERVICE.

	Whole-time Midwives	Part-time Midwives	Total
No. of applications received during the year	179	75	254
No. of Domiciliary Births during the year.			
Attended by a midwife alone	86	32	118
Attended by a doctor alone	1	—	1
Attended by a doctor and midwife	56	25	81
Neither a doctor nor a midwife present at the confinement	—	—	—
Totals	143	57	200
No. who had been booked for domiciliary confinement but on account of abnormalities or unsuitable housing accommodation were sent to and confined in Hospital.	13	3	16

TABLE No. 29.

MATERNITY SERVICES SCHEME.

THE WORK OF THE FULL-TIME DOMICILIARY MIDWIVES.

	Ante-Natal Visits.			No. of confinements conducted alone	No. of confinements conducted with doctors	N.o. of Puerperal Visits	Other Visits	Total
	Initial Visits	Revisits	Total					
January	14	134	148	6	7	232	-	393
February	18	133	151	7	5	211	-	374
March	13	131	144	11	4	302	-	461
April	11	127	138	9	2	142	-	291
May	14	101	115	2	8	161	-	286
June	17	111	128	3	6	191	-	328
July	25	115	140	3	4	209	-	356
August	20	139	159	12	4	250	-	425
September	30	152	182	9	6	261	-	458
October	10	133	143	7	5	230	-	385
November	18	129	147	6	4	168	-	325
December	15	150	165	11	2	183	-	361
Totals	205	1555	1760	86	57	2540	-	4443

TABLE No. 30.

MATERNITY DEPARTMENT—PERTH ROYAL INFIRMARY.

No. of Births occurring in the Maternity Department		Total No. of Attendances at the Ante-natal Clinic		No. of Persons attending the Ante-natal Clinic	
Perth City	Perth & Fife Counties	Perth City	Perth & Fife Counties	Perth City	Perth & Fife Counties
	Total		Total		Total
355	345	3578	2757	416	470
	700		6335		886

TABLE No. 31.

THE WORK OF THE HEALTH VISITORS.

	Initial Visits	Total No. of Visits	Total No. Visited
Children under 1 year . . .	647	3441	705
Children 1 to 5 years . . .	252	3392	2344
Expectant Mothers . . .	336	488	393
Tuberculosis Cases . . .	67	1053	426
Streptomycin Injections . . .		1110	
Aged Persons . . .	206	329	206
Persons receiving Home Help . . .	40	259	47
Visits on behalf of Almoner . . .	18	35	18
Visits on behalf of General Practitioners . . .	7	8	7
Others . . .	37	88	37
Totals . . .	1610	10203	4183

TABLE No. 32.

CHILD WELFARE CENTRES.

	No. of Children attending for first time during the year			Total No. of Children attending during the year		
	Under 1	Over 1	Total	Under 1	Over 1	Total
South Street . .	389	144	533	331	664	995
Muirton . . .	122	65	187	112	248	360
Totals . . .	511	209	720	443	912	1355
	Number of Attendances at Clinics					
	Consultation Clinic	Toddlers Clinic	Seen by Nurses	Total	Under 1	Over 1
South Street . .	2690	352	5217	8259	4614	1246
Muirton . . .	918	—	2723	3641	1818	701
Totals . . .	3608	352	7940	11900	6432	1947
					Others	Total
					2399	8259
					1122	3641
					3521	11900

TABLE No. 33.

ULTRA-VIOLET RAY CLINICS.

	First Attendances	Number Attending	Total Attendances
South Street Clinic . .	70	103	1224
Muirton Clinic . .	4	22	206
Totals . .	74	125	1530

TABLE No. 34.

DAY NURSERIES.

	No. of places provided at end of year		No. of places taken up at end of the year		Average daily attendance		Total attendances
	Under 2	Aged 2-5	Under 2	Aged 2-5	Under 2	Aged 2-5	
Florence Place	27	28	19	24	17.5	21.5	10,777
Westbank .	—	18	—	17	—	11.25	3,136
Totals	27	46	19	41	17.5	32.75	13,913

TABLE No. 35.

WESTBANK RESIDENTIAL NURSERY.

No. of Beds provided at the end of the year.			Children ad- mitted during year	Children dis- charged during year	Average daily Attendances
Under 2	Aged 2-5	Others			
16	—	—	72	78	12.1

TABLE No. 36.
HOME HELP SCHEME.

	No. of Cases who received assistance	No. of hours of help given	Average period of assistance
Maternity Cases . . .	9	185 hours	21 hours
Cases of Illness . . .	18	1354 „	75 „
Aged Persons . . .	48	6235 „	130 „
Tuberculosis Cases. .	9	1850 „	205 „
Blind Person . . .	1	521 „	521 „
	85	10145 hours.	120 hours.

	Whole-time	Part-time	Retaining-fee basis
No. of Home Helps employed at end of year . . .	7	—	7

TABLE No. 37.
HOME NURSING SERVICE.

	Number of Cases.			No. of Visits.
	New Cases	Old Cases	Total	
January . . .	43	93	136	1232
February . . .	43	79	122	1108
March . . .	35	88	123	1147
April . . .	50	81	131	1312
May . . .	47	92	139	1388
June . . .	34	78	112	1127
July . . .	40	83	123	1113
August . . .	20	79	99	987
September . . .	46	70	116	1118
October . . .	44	81	125	975
November . . .	37	81	118	869
December . . .	52	76	128	1088
Totals . . .	491	981	1472	13464

TABLE No. 38.

VENEREAL DISEASES.

RETURN OF CASES TREATED AT VENEREAL DISEASES CENTRE DURING 1953

	Syphilis				Gonorrhoea		Venereal conditions other than Syphilis and Gonorrhoea				Total Venereal		Non-Venereal	
	Acquired		Congenital		Total		M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.								
1. On Register at 1st Jan.	15	14	5	6	20	20	3	1	2	—	25	21	—	1
2. Re-admitted to Regis. resumpt. of treatment of the same infection, i.e. Defaulters re'tning	—	9	—	4	—	13	—	—	—	—	—	13	—	—
3. Transfers-in from Approved Centres	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
4. New cases	8	3	—	1	8	4	26	2	42	3	76	9	39	2
5. Totals (1, 2, 3 & 4)	23	26	5	11	28	37	29	3	44	3	101	43	39	3
6. Defaulted before completion of treatment	—	1	2	1	2	2	—	—	—	—	2	2	—	—
7. Defaulted after completion of treatment, but before test of cure	—	5	1	3	1	8	—	—	7	—	8	8	—	—
8. Transferred to other Centres	5	3	1	—	6	3	2	1	3	—	11	4	—	—
9. Discharged cured or as Non-Venereal	7	4	—	1	7	5	19	1	31	3	57	9	39	2
10. Died while on Register	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
11. On Register at 31st December	11	13	1	6	12	19	8	1	3	—	23	20	—	1
12. Totals (6, 7, 8, 9, 10 and 11)	23	26	5	11	28	37	29	3	44	3	101	43	39	3
Attendances for Medical Consultation	283	308	10	72	293	380	119	18	101	19	601	117	90	6

TABLE No. 39.
VENEREAL DISEASES.
 NEW CASES CLASSIFIED ACCORDING TO AGE.

	Syphilis						Venereal conditions other than Syphilis and Gonorrhoea		Total Venereal		Non-Venereal	
	Acquired		Congenital		Total		M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.						
1. Under 1 year . . .	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
2. 1 and under 5 years . .	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
3. 5 and under 15 years . .	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
4. 15 and under 25 years . .	1	—	—	—	1	—	6	1	5	1	2	—
5. 25 and under 35 years . .	—	1	—	1	—	2	14	—	14	2	28	—
6. Over 35 years . . .	7	2	—	—	7	2	6	1	23	—	36	—
Totals . . .	8	3	—	1	8	4	26	2	42	3	76	2

TABLE No. 40.

VENEREAL DISEASES.

NEW CASES CLASSIFIED ACCORDING TO THE AREAS IN WHICH THE PATIENTS RESIDE.

	Syphilis			Gonorrhoea	Venereal conditions other than Syphilis and Gonorrhoea	Total Venereal	Non-Venereal
	Acquired	Congenital	Total				
PERTH CLINIC— Cases belonging to Perth City	8	1	9	20	26	55	31
Cases belonging to other areas in Scotland . .	3	—	3	8	19	30	10
Cases belonging to areas outside Scotland . .	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	11	1	12	28	45	85	41
DUNDEE CLINIC— Cases belonging to Perth City	1	—	1	—	1	2	—
Totals belonging to Perth City	9	1	10	20	27	57	31

Report by the Sanitary Inspector

Sanitary Department,
22 York Place,
Perth.

15th June, 1954.

*To the Department of Health for Scotland, and the Lord Provost, Magistrates
and Council of the City of Perth.*

My Lord Provost, Lady and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my ninth Annual Report on the work of the Sanitary Department of the City of Perth for the year 1953.

PREFACE.

The increasing interest in the problem of smoke abatement and the prevention of atmospheric pollution referred to in last year's report has been maintained.

The general improvement in the standard of licensed premises has also been advanced further during the year.

The last complete survey of the sanitary condition of schools in the City was carried out in 1948 when a report was submitted to the Town Council and referred to the Education Authority for necessary action.

During the past five years considerable improvements have been effected and credit must be given to the Education Authority in this connection. A further survey was carried out during the past year, and report submitted to the Education Authority.

Details of these various matters will be found later in the course of this report.

HOUSING.

Unfit Houses. During the year undertakings were received from owners not to relet the following houses which were unfit for human habitation:—

	Property.	No. of Houses.	Order.
124	Canal Crescent	1	Undertaking.
12	Canal Street	1	"
6	Cow Vennel	1	"
6	Cross Street	1	Corporation Property.
15	Cross Street	1	" "
19	Cross Street	1	" "
21	Cross Street	1	" "
13	Cutlog Vennel	1	Undertaking.
	George Inn Lane	4	"
194	High Street	1	"
200	High Street	1	"
208	High Street	2	"
329	High Street	1	Corporation Property.
341	High Street	1	Undertaking.
81	Leonard Street	1	"
87	Leonard Street	1	"
46	Main Street	1	"
12	Meal Vennel	4	"
33	Newrow	1	"
35	Pomarium Street	1	"
73	Pomarium Street	1	"
5	St. Paul's Square	1	"
11	Skinnergate	2	"
19	Stormont Street	2	"
25	Stormont Street	1	"
31	Stormont Street	1	"
37	Stormont Street	1	"
	Tayview, Friarton	6	"
27	Thimblorow	1	"
87	Watergate	1	"
59	West Mill Street	1	"
48	Whitefriars Street	1	"
52	Whitefriars Street	1	"

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Of 58 houses owned by the Town Council and included in a survey made in 1949 as being unfit for human habitation, 54 had been closed at the end of 1953.

The following properties which consisted of closed, unfit houses were demolished during the year:—

Tayview, Friarton	6 houses
Upper Friarton Cottages	..	2	"
		8	"

Meal Vennel Clearance Area. Negotiations for the acquisition of the remaining properties in the area were advanced during the year.

Provision of New Houses. During the year 1953 new houses were provided as follows:—

Houses erected by Private Enterprise:—

3 apts.	.	.	5 houses.
4 apts.	.	.	7 "
5 apts.	.	.	6 "
6 apts.	.	.	2 "
Total	.	.	20

Private Houses under construction at end of 1953:—

4 apts. . . .	12 houses.
5 apts. . . .	4 „
6 apts. . . .	3 „
<hr/>	
Total	19

Corporation Houses completed during 1953:—

Letham Housing Development:—

	2 apts.	3 apts.	4 apts.	Totals.
Traditional	12	99	77	188
Atholl	—	4	—	4
Dorran	—	—	26	26
<hr/>				<hr/>
	12	103	103	218

Moncreiffe Housing Scheme:—

Traditional	—	12	—	12
-----------------------	---	----	---	----

shops were also provided

Tulloch Housing Scheme:—

Traditional	—	24	—	24
<hr/>				<hr/>
Totals	12	139	103	254

Corporation Houses under construction at end of 1953:—

Letham Housing Development:—

	2 apts.	3 apts.	4 apts.	Totals.
Traditional	12	151	43	206

Moncreiffe Housing Scheme:—

Traditional	—	40	—	40
<hr/>				<hr/>
Totals	12	191	43	246

Housing Improvement Grants. During the year 8 applications by owners for Improvement Grants under the Housing (Scotland) Act, 1950, were approved by the Town Council.

In 7 instances these were in respect of houses which were owner-occupied.

Points System. During the year 154 visits of inspection were made in connection with unfitness points and the results notified to the City Factor along with the awards of medical points by the Medical Officer of Health in health cases.

Disinfestation of Bug-Infested Furniture and Bedding. During the year 617 houses were examined for the presence of bed bugs prior to the removal of tenants to Corporation houses. In 11 cases evidence of bugs was found, and arrangements were made for the disinfestation of the furniture by cyanide gas and the bedding by steam, before delivery of the furniture and bedding to the Corporation house.

Overcrowding. During the past year out of a total allocation of 488 houses, 254 overcrowding cases were re-housed, 155 being tenants of houses and 99 occupying sub-let rooms. This represents 52 per cent of the allocations.

Up to the end of the year 3,709 families had been accommodated in temporary, permanent, decanted and requisitioned houses during the post-war housing efforts.

GENERAL SANITATION.

During the year 281 nuisances were discovered or complained of, and 74 intimations under Section 19 of the Public Health (Scotland) Act, 1897, were served.

Two notices under Section 20 of the Act were also served where no action had been taken to abate nuisances following the intimations.

Six hundred and eight visits of inspection and enquiry were made.

The following are the particulars of the nuisances dealt with :—

Choked or defective drains	23
Choked or defective traps	6
Choked or defective gullies	5
Choked or defective rainwater conductors	7
Choked or defective rhones	4
Burst pipes	2
Choked sinks	7
Choked or defective W.C.s	13
Dangerous outbuildings	3
Defective roofs	11
Dampness in houses	12
Defective floors and woodwork	8
Defective ceilings and wall plaster	9
Defective vents and firegrates	9
Accumulations	22
Smoke nuisances	14
Domestic animal nuisances	6
Verminous houses	8
Insect nuisances	34
Offensive smells	29
Dirty houses	17
Defective walls	2
Alleged contaminated water supply	1
Insufficient water supply	1
Pigeon and poultry nuisances	3
Nuisance from refuse bins	3
Flooding	4
Failing to clean passages, stairs and W.C. apartments	10
Miscellaneous	8

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SANITARY CONVENIENCES.

During the year the following improvements in the sanitary accommodation of houses were carried out:—

54-56 South William Street. W.C.s provided for each of 4 houses.

191 High Street. Bathroom provided.

Upper Friarton House. Kitchenette provided.

Inchbank, Main Street, Bridgend. Bathroom provided.

3 Princes Street. Kitchen and scullery provided.

11 Rosario Terrace. Bathroom provided.

61 George Street. Bathroom provided.

Parkhead, Burghmuir. Kitchen and bathroom provided.

12 King Street. Bathroom and kitchenette provided.

Lilybank, Fairies Road. Bathroom provided.

9 Rosemount Place. W.C. and wash-hand basin provided.
 70 High Street. Bathroom provided.
 Dundee Road. Kitchenette provided.
 20 Scott Street. W.C. provided in house.
 29 Muirton Place. Kitchenette provided.
 7 Ballantine Place. Bathroom and kitchenette provided.
 59 North Methven Street. Bathroom and larder provided.
 19B Glover Street. Bathroom provided and new sink in kitchen.
 61 Burghmuir Road. Kitchenette provided.
 A total of 11 bathrooms, 8 kitchenettes and 6 W.C. apartments were provided.

PAINTING OF COMMON STAIRS AND PASSAGES.

During the year 89 notices were issued under the Burgh Police (Scotland) Act, 1892, Section 117, in respect of stairs and passages, and in 43 cases painting had been completed.

CLEANSING AND SCAVENGING.

The refuse is collected three times a week from premises in the centre of the City along with certain other populated areas, including Corporation Housing Schemes, and twice a week from those in the outlying districts.

The refuse is conveyed to the Separation and Destruction Plant at Friarton, where all salvage is removed from it. The remainder is burned and the dust and clinkers taken to Newhouse Quarry.

As regards street sweeping, there are 26 beats in the City with a sweeper on each.

OFFENSIVE TRADES.

There are five Offensive Trades registered within the City:—

Slaughterhouse	1
Tallow Melting Works . .	1
Manure Manufacturers . .	3

These were all conducted in a satisfactory manner and no complaints of nuisance were received.

The new chemical manure works at Friarton Road, mentioned in last year's report, are now in production.

SANITARY CONDITION OF SCHOOLS.

During the past year the undernoted improvements have been carried out in connection with the sanitary accommodation at City Schools:—
Northern District; Boys. Three urinals have been renewed by modern slabs and flushing systems have been provided in 2 urinals where there were none previously.

Southern District. The former obsolete trough closets have been replaced by 10 wash-down W.C.s for girls and 8 for boys, with separate flushing cisterns and a fireclay slab urinal.

As stated in the preface to this report, a survey of the schools in the City was carried out during the year and a report submitted to the Education Authority.

In reviewing the existing sanitary accommodation in the various schools, consideration must be given to its adequacy for the number of pupils and to the fact that the general condition and adequacy of such accommodation and the encouragement of all children to make proper and regular use of it, are very important aspects of education in personal hygiene.

As a result of the recent survey it was found that the outstanding matters requiring attention were as follows:—

Senior Academy. Additional W.C.s are required for girls. This school is the most deficient in this respect of all schools in the City and requires urgent attention. Additional W.C.s are required for female and male teachers.

Junior Academy. Additional W.C.s are required for girls.

Central District. Complete modernisation of sanitary accommodation will be required if this school is to be continued in use.

Cherrybank. Cement-faced urinals should be replaced by fireclay slabs.

Northern District. Additional W.C.s are required for girls.

St. John's R.C. Primary. Urinal should be replaced by fireclay slabs.

Craigie. Additional W.C.s and urinal space are required for boys. The present urinal should be replaced by fireclay slabs and a screening wall erected.

Craigclowan School (Private). During the past year 3 W.C.s and 3 wash-hand basins with hot and cold water supply were provided for girls in the basement cloakroom. An 8 feet urinal space with 2 W.C.s and 3 wash-hand basins for boys are to be provided during the next summer vacation. This will give more suitable accommodation than that existing at various parts of the premises at present.

SMOKE ABATEMENT.

The liaison between the department and the Ministry of Fuel Technical advisers continued during the year, and on several occasions the Ministry's fuel engineers and stoker demonstrator were called in to give advice and instruction at boiler plants where smoke emission was excessive.

This service by the Ministry of Fuel and Power which is given free of charge, could be used to greater advantage by local industrialists, and in fact by all boiler plant users, particularly as a Government grant is now available to those persons prepared to instal new boiler plant, including mechanical stokers, which will result in fuel savings.

Improved fuel efficiency leads to a reduction in smoke emission and I am pleased to report that several plants have been fitted with mechanical stokers during the year.

Thirteen persons enrolled for the class on Boiler House Practice held in the local evening school, those of the students who are firemen will be given the opportunity of sitting the City and Guilds examination for the Boiler Operator's Certificate.

FACTORIES ACT, 1937

During the past year 25 visits of inspection were made under the Factories Act, 1937. The following acts or defaults were brought to the notice of the occupiers :—

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found.				
	Found	Remedied	Referred to H.M. Inspector	Referred by H.M. Inspector	No. of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
Want of cleanliness	4	3	—	—	—
Overcrowding	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary conveniences :—					
(a) Insufficient	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective	3	1	—	3	—
(c) Not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	—	—	—	—	—
Total	7	4	—	3	—

At the end of the year there were 248 mechanical and 35 non-mechanical factories on the Register, as detailed in the following tables :—

FACTORIES.

Mechanical.

Aerated Water and Beer Bottlers	3	Manure Manufacturers	.
Agricultural Machinery	3	Masons	.
Asphalt Makers	1	Meal Grinders	.
Bakers	21	Milk Pasteurisers	.
Bituminous Dressing	1	Motor Body Builders	2
Blacksmiths	2	Motor Vehicle Repairers	.
Bookbinders	3	Oatmeal Grinding	.
Boot Repairers	6	Oat Clippers	.
Brass Finishers	1	Oilcake Crushers	.
Brush Makers	1	Opticians	.
Brewers	1	Provender Mills	.
Bee Appliance Makers	1	Plumbers	.
Cabinet Makers	3	Photographers	.
Coach Painters	1	Printers	1
Cutlery Repairers	1	Rag Sorters	.
Cycle Repairers	3	Rat Poison Makers	.
Concrete Pole Makers	1	Sack Repairers	.
Cylinder Repairers	1	Sand Screeners	.
Dressmakers	4	Sausage Manufacturers	1
Dyers	2	Sawmillers	.
Egg Grading	1	Scrap Metal	.
Electrical Engineers	5	Sculptors	.
Electricity Generators	2	Signal Repairers	.
Engineers	6	Stone Crushers	.
Firewood Cutters	1	Sweet Manufacturers	.
Fishing Tackle Makers	2	Sheet Metal Workers	.
Flour Millers	1	Saw Repairers	.
Gas Manufacturers	2	Tailors	.
Glass Makers and Bevellers	4	Tallow Makers	.
Ham Curers	1	Tile Slabbers	.
Ice Cream Merchants	9	Tinsmiths	.
Iron Founders	1	Tripe Cleaners	.
Ironmongery Repairers	1	Typewriter Repairers	.
Joiners	17	Upholsterers	.
Jute Spinners	1	Whisky Blenders	.
Jewellers	6	Wire Workers	.
Laundries	9	Wood Turners	.
Linen Weavers	1	Weighing Machine Repairers	.
Loco. & Wagon Repairers	1		

FACTORIES.

Non-Mechanical.

Bakers	3	Masons	.
Cycle Repairers	2	Picture Framers	.
Dressmakers	6	Plumbers	.
Electricians	1	Saddlers	.
Golf Club Repairers	1	Tailors	.
Ham Curers	1	Tinsmiths	.
Jewellery Repairers	1	Upholsterers	.
Joiners	3	Wireless Repairers	.
Paint Mixers	1		

SHOPS ACT, 1950.

In addition to improvements in the sanitary accommodation of used premises referred to later in this report, the following works were carried out on shop premises during the year:—

McCreiffe Housing Scheme. Four new shops erected, with W.C. and wash-hand basin for each shop.

Hat's Outfitters. Staff-room with sink and gas grill, cloakroom with W.C. and wash-hand basin with Ascot Heater provided.

Wholesale Tobacconist. Ceiling and intervening ventilated space and new window provided for W.C. Apartment.

Tool Shop. Two shops converted into one with new stair to basement.

Restaurant. Water-closet and wash-hand basin provided in intervening ventilated space.

During the year 78 visits of inspection for the purposes of the Act were made to shops.

COMMON LODGING-HOUSE.

The Model Lodging-House at 14-36 Skinnergate was visited regularly and found to be kept in a very satisfactory condition.

HOUSE LET-IN-LODGINGS.

The Princes Street Hostel continues to be let to capacity and no cause of complaint was found.

TENTS AND VANS.

The caravans at the Showground on the South Inch were visited during the period of the fairs and found to be in a very satisfactory condition.

The Town Council have at present under consideration the question of a suitable permanent site for caravans in the city.

BURIALS.

Under Section 50 of the National Assistance Act, 1948, the Department made arrangements for the burials of bodies of 9 adults and 1 child who died, or been found dead in the city, and where no other suitable arrangements for the disposal of the bodies had been made.

The exhumation and reburial of the body of a child was carried out at Wellshill Cemetery by warrant of the Sheriff under the supervision of the Sanitary Inspector.

CITY MORTUARY.

The city mortuary, Speygate, continues to be kept in a satisfactory condition under the control of this Department.

BURIAL GROUNDS.

The three burial grounds within the Burgh are kept in a satisfactory condition under the supervision of the Superintendent of Parks and Cemeteries.

PIGGERIES.

Since the provisions of the Defence Regulations relating to piggeries were cancelled in December, 1952, an effort has been made to bring the piggeries up to the standards as laid down in the local bye-laws. This is not an easy task as numerous semi-permanent structures were erected during the war years which did not comply with the local bye-laws and it is now a question of trying to get these structures renewed and re-sited.

There are 20 piggeries in the burgh, housing a total of approximately 1,000 pigs.

At the end of the year an outbreak of Swine Fever occurred at one of the smaller piggeries in the burgh. The necessary precautions as laid down in the Swine Fever Order were carried out under Police supervision.

RENT AND MORTGAGE (RESTRICTIONS) ACTS.

No applications for certificates in terms of the Rent and Mortgage (Restrictions) Acts were received during the year.

It would appear that the Housing (Repairs and Rents) (Scotland) Bill at present before Parliament may mean a great increase in the work of issuing certificates of disrepair, if and when the new Act comes into operation.

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949.

During the year 370 complaints were received and 976 visits of inspection were carried out, when advice and assistance were given to occupiers of infested premises.

One thousand, one hundred and ninety rats and 1,449 mice were destroyed. This includes 222 rats and 191 mice at business premises, 497 rats and 1,011 mice at dwelling-house property, 261 rats at piggeries, farms and marts, 25 rats and 247 mice at institutions, and 185 rats destroyed at the Friarton Refuse Disposal Works by the trapper employed by the Cleansing Department.

The sum of £32 7s. 6d. was recovered as costs of treatment of business premises during the year.

WATER SUPPLY.

The total quantity of water distributed (including the quantity supplied in bulk to the County) for the year ending 31st December, 1953, was 1,112,984,000 gallons. Of this quantity 376,064,000 gallons were supplied by meter (including the County supply) and an estimated quantity of 736,000,000 was supplied for unmetered non-domestic purposes.

The domestic consumption in the Burgh was 46.76 gallons per head per day.

DRAINAGE.

The following new sewers were laid at Letham Housing Development during 1953:—

Development—	9" diameter	— 53 lin. yds.
	6" "	— 37 "
Development—	24" "	— 20 lin. yds.
	12" "	— 47 "
Development—	9" diameter	— 40 lin. yds.

The following surface water drains were also laid:—

Development—	36" diameter	— 117 lin. yds.
	15" "	— 159 "
	12" "	— 74 "
	9" "	— 132 "
Development.—	6" diameter	— 36 lin. yds.

The drains of all new houses and other premises were subjected to smoke test by the Burgh Surveyor's Department.

INFECTIOUS DISEASE ENQUIRIES.

Whenever considered necessary visits of enquiry are made by the District Sanitary Inspectors to the houses in which cases of infectious disease have occurred, and particulars of patients and contacts are obtained. During the year 62 visits of enquiry were made, and 57 notices were sent to Headmasters of schools regarding exclusion periods of patients and contacts.

Tuberculosis Disinfection. Following the removal of tuberculosis patients to hospital, or deaths from this disease at home, arrangements were made for the disinfection of the houses by spraying with Phenol, and the disinfection or destruction of all infected bedding.

During the year 71 houses were disinfected, 60 sets of bedding were disinfected and 4 sets of bedding destroyed.

FOOD SUPPLY.

Milk Supply. All byres, creameries and retail premises were inspected regularly, and very little cause for complaint was found, the terms of the various Acts, Orders and Regulations being on the whole, complied with as far as possible.

Milkery Bye-Laws. No serious contraventions of the Bye-laws were found, and the methods of milking and handling were quite satisfactory. As requested by the Department of Health, the following particulars were given:—

(a) The number of retail purveyors of milk	49
(b) The number of producers and wholesale dealers who do not sell milk by retail	2
(c) The approximate average number of cows in registered premises	11
(d) The number of dairies exempt from registration	—
(e) The approximate average number of cows in premises exempt from registration	—

Of the two producers on the Register, only one is at present keeping cows for the purpose of sale of milk. By the end of the year the only retail of ordinary milk in the Burgh had changed over to Tuberculin Tested Milk. All the milk sold in the City is now therefore sold under Special Designations and the City of Perth has now been declared a Specified Area under the Milk (Special Designations) (Scotland) Order, 1951.

Pasteurisation Plants. The three creameries pasteurising milk within the Burgh continued to function efficiently throughout the year. All three plants produce both T.T. (Pasteurised) and Pasteurised Grades of milk.

Towards the end of the year some difficulty was experienced at the smallest plant in the Burgh, samples showing that the milk was not being properly pasteurised. A leaking valve was found which was allowing a certain amount of untreated milk to pass through, while the recording thermometer was giving a false reading. Both matters have now received attention.

The average daily production of the combined plants in the Burgh was as follows.—

Pasteurised Milk	3,850 gallons.
T.T. (Pasteurised) Milk	1,030 „

It must be pointed out that Tuberculin Tested Milk comprises some 90 per cent of the bulk milk supplies coming in to the Creameries for processing.

The following table shows the approximate quantities and percentages of the different grades of milk sold daily within the Burgh:—

	Gallons.	Per Cent.
Pasteurised	2,676	72.6
T.T. (Pasteurised)	672	18.2
Certified	244	6.6
Tuberculin Tested	45	1.3
Ordinary (until end of October)	45	1.3
Total	3,682	100.0

Scottish Milk Testing Scheme. All milk supplies coming in to the creameries are tested by experienced milk testers.

During the year 119 samples failed the 1st weekly Resazurin test; 28 samples failed the 2nd weekly test; and 11 samples failed the 3rd weekly test. The milk rejected at the platform amounted to 27 gallons.

School Milk. Attention is given to school supplies both in the creameries and at the schools. All school milk samples except one were found to be satisfactory.

MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS) (SCOTLAND) ORDER.

The following table gives the results of the bacteriologist's reports on the examination of graded milk :—

EXAMINATION OF MILK SAMPLES.

Samples	Bacterial Count		Phosphatase		Methylene Blue		Coliform	
	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory
Pasteurised . . .	47	1	47	1	48	—	48	—
T.T. (Pasteurised) .	58	—	53	5	58	—	57	1
Certified . . .	24	—	—	—	21	3	17	7
Tuberculin Tested .	2	—	—	—	2	—	2	—
School Milk— T.T. (Pasteurised) .	16	—	15	1	16	—	15	1
Total . . .	147	1	115	7	145	3	139	9

Testing of Non-Designated Milk. In accordance with the Department of Health Circular No. 17/1947, the following table shows the result of the testing of non-designated milk. All samples were submitted to the plate count and coliform tests in addition to the Methylene Blue (Hiscox) Test:—

	Samples	Bacterial Count		Methylene Blue		Coliform	
		Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory
Raw Milk.							
City							
Producer	4	4	—	4	—	4	—
County							
Producer	2	2	—	2	—	1	1

ICE CREAM.

The requirements of the Ice Cream (Scotland) Regulations, 1947, continue to be complied with very satisfactorily by the manufacturers and dealers in the City.

During the year registrations were granted in respect of 5 premises and 4 vehicles. At the end of the year a total of 13 premises were registered for the manufacture, storage and sale of ice cream, and 35 premises and 9 vehicles for the storage and sale of ice cream.

All registered premises and vehicles were inspected regularly and where necessary, traders were advised regarding measures to be taken to comply with the Regulations.

The following table gives the results of samples taken during the year for chemical examination.

No. of Sample.	Fat per cent.	No. of Sample.	Fat per cent.
22	8.13	64	11.05
32	6.04	70	10.29
33	5.21	71	8.13
34	Broken in transit	72	6.22
35	7.61	73	6.51
42	6.12	74	13.30
43	7.09	75	6.49
44	5.68	76	5.98
45	10.02	77	Broken in transit
46	11.50	78	4.88
60	4.89	79	6.61
61	6.58	96	3.96
62	6.61	97	6.88
63	11.49		

The average fat content was 7.49 per cent.

The following table gives the results of samples taken during the year bacteriological examination:—

No. of Sample	Plate Count	Coliform	No. of Sample	Plate Count	Coliform
1	4,000	Absent	17	2,000	Absent
2	3,500	"	18	208,000	Present
3	1,900	"	19	16,000	Absent
4	600	"	20	560,000	Present
5	900,000	"	21	4,000	Absent
6	2,300	"	22	8,000	"
7	800	"	23	6,000	"
8	900	"	24	1,000	"
9	500	"	25	1,000	"
10	60,000	Present	26	101,000	"
11	100	Absent	27	51,000	"
12	4,800	"	28	15,600	"
13	23,600	"	29	5,000	"
14	4,600	"	30	35,000	"
15	9,200	"	31	740,000	Present
16	1,300	"			

INSPECTION OF MEAT AND OTHER FOODS.

Meat. The following table, supplied by the Superintendent of the Abattoir, gives particulars of animals slaughtered in the Public Abattoir and the quantity of meat condemned there during the year:—

Class of Animals	Number of Animals			Weight (in lbs.) of Condemedned	
	Slaughtered	Wholly Condemedned	Partially Condemedned	Meat lbs.	Offals lbs.
Cattle .	4,595	45	63	25,321	20,586
Sheep .	32,519	90	58	3,998	
Pigs .	3,581	8	49	1,932	
Calves .	1,170	9	2	624	

The Abattoir premises continue to be kept in a satisfactory condition.

Other Foods. The following table gives details of unsound foodstuffs condemned and surrendered as unfit for human consumption:—

Pork Sides	12,024 lbs.	Fish	61 tins
Pork Trimmings	3,216 lbs.	Fish	3 stones
Mutton	4,897 lbs.	Frozen Cockles	3 lbs.
Mutton Trimmings	2,974 lbs.	Fish Cakes	4 dozen
Lamb	33 lbs.	Soup	473 tins
Lamb Trimmings	185 lbs.	Evaporated Milk	335 tins
Beef	453 lbs.	Condensed Milk	82 tins
Gut	266 lbs.	Tomatoes	35 tins
Ox Runners	550 lbs.	Tomato Juice	9 tins
Venison	176 lbs.	Cooked Ham	15 tins—
Pork Sausages	50 lbs.		195½ lbs.
Roast Pork	25 lbs.	Spaghetti	13 tins
Turkeys (8)	176 lbs.	Jam	37 tins
Dripping	24 lbs.	Frozen Eggs	4 tins
Meat	844 tins	Cream	13 tins
Vegetables	524 tins	Macaroni and Cheese	6 tins
Fruit	1,977 tins	Sandwich Spread	13 tins
Fruit Juice	76 tins	Strained Foods	8 tins
Apples	360 lbs.	Chocolate Cake Cups	8 dozen
Sultanas	84 lbs.	Confectionery	4½ lbs.
		Confectionery	7 pkts.

The quantities of pork and mutton are above the average. This is explained by the fact that during shipment of a cargo of meat from New Zealand a breakdown occurred in the refrigeration plant, and, on unloading at Glasgow, part of the consignment was found to be affected by black spot mould and decomposition.

As the cold storage facilities at Glasgow were insufficient, the Ministry of Food diverted part of the consignment to their Cold Storage at Muirton, Perth, for examination.

Out of a total of 445,711 lbs. of pork, mutton and lamb, 23,329 lbs. were found to be unfit for human consumption and disposed of.

It may be of interest to record that no complaints were received from any source regarding the soundness of the meat released for human consumption.

FOOD HYGIENE.

Increasing public interest is being shown in the question of food hygiene and whilst all possible steps have been taken to secure improvement in the condition of premises, there is at present a lack of adequate statutory powers to deal with this question in a satisfactory manner.

The Food and Drugs (Scotland) Bill and the proposed Regulations and powers of Registration of certain types of businesses should do much to strengthen the hands of the local authority.

In addition to work carried out under the Shops Act, referred to previously in this report, one of the largest hotels in the city was completely modernised during the year. This work included the following improvements:—

Ground Flat. New cloakroom and luggage store; entrance hall enlarged; reception and control transposed. New American Bar provided; existing bar converted into extension to gent's cloakroom. Former entrance to

gent's lavatory closed, position of urinals changed and stalls increased from 4 to 6, with 4 existing W.C.s and 5 wash-hand basins. Ladies' cloakroom transposed with 6 W.C.s in separate apartments ventilated by duct and extractor fan. Lavatory ventilated by window ; 5 wash-hand basins.

New large lounge; new service to kitchen; new private room.

1st Flat. 7 additional bathrooms provided to existing 9, making a total of 16. All fittings renewed.

2nd Flat. 7 additional bathrooms provided to existing 9, giving a total of 16. All fittings renewed.

A new dish-washing machine, sinks, etc., were provided in the kitchen, and the walls and ceilings repainted.

A new ballroom was also constructed, and the entire premises re-decorated.

Licensed Premises. Special reference was made in last year's report regarding the improvement of licensed premises generally, and their sanitary accommodation in particular.

I am pleased to say that such improvements have been carried out to an even greater extent during the past year. The following were among the works carried out at various premises:—

1) New Premises: Ground flat of former dwelling-house converted into public house with 14-feet urinal, W.C. and wash-hand basin for gents; W.C. and wash-hand basin for ladies.

2) New Cocktail Lounge with stainless steel sink behind bar, hot and cold water supply from Ascot heater, and W.C. and wash-hand basin provided for ladies; gent's urinal and W.C. apartment ventilated by louvered cupola.

3) New urinals and W.C. apartment for gents; ladies' cloakroom with W.C., wash-hand basin and water-heater for ladies, and new office provided.

4) New urinal, W.C. and wash-hand basin provided for public-house, and new urinal, W.C. and 2 wash-hand basins provided for hotel.

5) New lounge and buffet provided with W.C. in apartment off, with intervening ventilated space.

6) New urinal and W.C. for gents; wash-hand basin in W.C. apartment for ladies. New servery provided.

A "Clean Food" Exhibit, loaned by the Department of Health for Scotland, was displayed for a week in a window of Reliance Motors Ltd., South Street, and acknowledgment is made of the assistance given by the firm in this connection.

SALE OF FOOD AND DRUGS ACTS.

The following table shows the number of samples taken under the above Acts.

Article	Genuine		Not Genuine		Total	
	Formal	Informal	Formal	Informal	Formal	Informal
Sweet Milk . . .	—	7	—	I	—	8
T.T. Milk . . .	—	I	—	I	—	2
Certified Milk . . .	—	16	—	—	—	16
Pasteurised Milk . . .	—	9	—	—	—	9
T.T. (Pasteurised) Milk . . .	—	15	—	—	—	15
Apples (Raw) . . .	—	I	—	—	—	I
Brandy . . .	—	I	—	—	—	I
Whisky . . .	4	—	—	—	4	—
Malt Vinegar . . .	—	I	—	—	—	I
Baking Powder . . .	—	I	—	—	—	I
Synthetic Whipping Cream . . .	—	I	—	—	—	I
Dried Mixed Vegetables . . .	—	I	—	—	—	I
Brisling . . .	—	I	—	—	—	I
Savoury Potato Straws . . .	—	I	—	—	—	I
Butter Mints . . .	—	I	—	—	—	I
Fruit Slices . . .	—	I	—	—	—	I
Snowballs . . .	—	I	—	—	—	I
Camphorated Oil . . .	—	I	—	—	—	I
Cod Liver Oil . . .	—	I	—	—	—	I
Ice Cream . . .	—	22	—	3	—	27
			(2 broken in transit)			
Double Cream . . .	—	2	—	—	—	2
Sausages . . .	—	4	—	—	—	4
Black Pudding . . .	—	I	—	—	—	I
Semolina . . .	—	I	—	—	—	I
Tapioca . . .	—	I	—	—	—	I
Raspberry Jam . . .	—	I	—	—	—	I
Meat Paste . . .	—	I	—	—	—	I
Tomato Soup Powder . . .	—	I	—	—	—	I
Cream of Tartar . . .	—	I	—	—	—	I
Curry Powder . . .	—	I	—	—	—	I
Zinc Ointment . . .	—	I	—	—	—	I
Gregory Powder . . .	—	I	—	—	—	I
Mince . . .	—	5	—	I	—	6
Ice Lollie . . .	—	I	—	—	—	I
Dripping . . .	—	2	—	—	—	2
Olive Oil . . .	—	I	—	—	—	I
Syrup of White Wine Cream . . .	—	I	—	—	—	I
Sponge Flour Mixture . . .	—	I	—	—	—	I
Cake Mixture . . .	—	I	—	—	—	I
Tomato Paste . . .	—	I	—	—	—	I
Lobster in Jelly . . .	—	I	—	—	—	I
Butter . . .	—	I	—	—	—	I
Margarine . . .	—	I	—	—	—	I
Bridies . . .	—	I	—	—	—	I
Butter Toffees . . .	—	I	—	—	—	I
Potted Meat . . .	—	I	—	—	—	I
Toffees . . .	—	2	—	—	—	2
Printed Celophane . . .	—	I	—	—	—	I
Total . . .	4	122	—	6	4	130
			(2 broken in transit)			

PHARMACY AND POISONS ACT, 1933.

Premises of listed sellers of poisons under Part II of the Poisons List were visited, and advice given as to the requirements of the Act and Rules.

FERTILISERS AND FEEDING STUFFS ACT, 1926.

Two samples of fertilisers were taken as Inspector under the Act during the year. The samples agreed with the statements of guarantee within the limits of variation as laid down in the Regulations.

PUBLIC CONVENIENCES.

New ladies' and gent's conveniences were completed during the year at Strathmore Street, and the existing gent's convenience at Back Wynd was closed.

The question of the provision of more up-to-date conveniences at the King Street and Kinnoull Street areas is still under consideration.

The amount collected from the coin-operated locks during the year was £1,360 10s. 4d. as compared with £1,285 16s. during 1952. £1,098 5s. 9d. was collected from the ladies' conveniences, and £262 4s. 7d. from the gent's.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT.

I wish to record my appreciation of the co-operation and assistance which I have received from the officials of other Departments, and my sincere thanks to the members of the staff for their loyal service.

I am,

My Lord Provost, Lady and Gentlemen,

Your Obedient Servant,

WM. McBRYDE, F.R.San.I.,
Sanitary Inspector.

